

## HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHTS

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- 1974** *Health Insurance Commission Act 1973* is passed in August at an historic joint sitting of both Houses of Parliament
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- 1975** Medibank offices are opened across Australia on 1 July to administer Medibank
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- 1976** Medibank Private is established on 1 October to compete with other private health insurance funds
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- 1978** Operation of Medibank Private becomes HIC's sole function
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- 1982** Medibank Private becomes Australia's largest national private health insurer
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- 1984** Medicare is introduced in February
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- 1985** Fraud and overservicing function (now Professional Review) is transferred to HIC
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- 1989** Administration of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme is transferred to HIC  
Medclaims (electronic direct billing) is introduced
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- 1993** HIC begins processing and paying claims on behalf of Australian Hearing Services  
HIC is chosen to administer the Commonwealth Childcare Rebate Scheme
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- 1994** Commonwealth Childcare Cash Rebate Scheme begins in July
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- 1995** HIC is chosen to administer the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register from 1 January  
*Health and Other Services (Compensation) Act 1995* becomes effective from 1 February for HIC administration
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- 1996** HIC begins processing of Veterans' treatment accounts on behalf of the Department of Veterans' Affairs
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- 1997** Commonwealth Government announces separation of Medibank Private from HIC  
Private Health Insurance Incentives Scheme begins in July  
General Practice Immunisation Incentives Program begins in August
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- 1998** Medibank Private is separated from HIC  
Government announces the introduction of two-way agency arrangements between Medicare and private health insurance funds  
Medicare offices cease to assess Medibank Private claims from 30 June  
Practice Incentives Program replaces the Better Practice Program from 1 July
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- 1999** Federal Government 30% Health Insurance Rebate supersedes the Private Health Insurance Incentives Scheme from 1 January
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- 2000** HIC begins providing services under the Family Assistance Office  
HIC begins administering the Australian Organ Donor Register
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- 2001** Health eSignature Authority Pty Ltd is established to facilitate PKI infrastructure
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- 2002** HIC Online is launched, allowing direct bill claims to Medicare to be made over the internet  
PBS Online is launched and HIC receives more than 90, 000 scripts in its first six months
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- 2003** The first MediConnect consumer has their medication and prescription details registered with HIC
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- 2003** The Australian Organ Donor Register has more than 4.5 million people registered
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